Don't Fail to Read
Our New Story
Beginning This Week.

The Meredith News.

We Begin
CHEQUE No. 9031
This Week.

Vol. X. No. 6. MEREDITH VILLAGE, N. H., THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1889. Price Three Cents.

BUSINESS CARDS.

S. W. ROLLINS,
COUNSELOR AT LAW
Meredith, N. H.

N. C. NUTTING,
Physician and Surgeon,
Office in residence on Main Street, opposite the School-house.
MEREDITH, N. H.

F. L. HAWKINS,
Physician and Surgeon,
Office over P. D. Blaisdell's Store.
MEREDITH, N. H.

F. E. KITTREDGE, M. D.,
Physician and Surgeon,
CENTRE HARBOR, N. H.

DR. C. C. MATHEWSON,
Will perform all operations in
DENTISTRY
At his office in Prescott's New Block.
Main Street, Meredith, N. H.

L. HARTSHORN & SON,
Carriage and Sign Painters,
Meredith, N. H.

JOHN EASTER,
PAINTER,
Meredith, N. H.

O. S. PIPER,
Contractor and Builder,
Estimates on all kinds of work in my line furnished on application.
Meredith, N. H.

Elm House
Meredith, N. H.
THOS. GRAY, - PROPRIETOR.
Remodeled and Newly Furnished.

A. J. WATSON,
Practical Carpenter,
Contractor and Builder.
Estimates furnished on application.
Waukewan St., Meredith, N. H.

GEO. D. PEASE,
112, Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.
LOANS NEGOTIATED, REAL ESTATE BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION, TAXES PAID, ESTATES MANAGED.

BLAKE & MOULTON,
UNDERTAKERS
—AND—
FUNERAL DIRECTORS.

SICK HEADACHE!
Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Vomiting after meals Pain in the side, Distress from over eating, Nervousness, Costiveness, Piles, Coated tongue, etc. are relieved and cured with Wadleigh's Little Vegetable Pills. A fair trial will convince you of their superiority. Do not gripe Small. Large number. Small dose. Small price 25 pills 25c. 5 bottles $1.00. One pill a dose. At all druggists or sent on receipt of price.
My food distressed me very much. There was a terrible burning in my stomach, and burning water fairly run out of my mouth. A few doses of WADLEIGH'S LITTLE VEGETABLE PILLS completely cured me. I never took a remedy that worked like these little pills. Respectfully, JOHN CUSHING, Franklin Falls, N. H.
Wadleigh's Rheumatic Cure Cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Gout, etc. All druggists. Try it. Prepared only by F. E. WADLEIGH, Pharmacist, Alton, N. H.

Notice to Farmers

All castings used in the make-up of the Swivel Plow

"GRANGER"

From and after January 1st, 1889, are fully warranted not to break by any fair means, the owner to be the judge.

The best is the Cheapest.

WADLEIGH PLOW CO.,
41 Meredith, N. H.

CARRIAGES FOR SALE.

Any person in want of a well made Buggy or Light Wagon can be accommodated by A. SHERMAN, of the Mountain View House. No cheap work done. x-3

FOR SALE OR TO RENT!
For a term of years. A two-story house containing nine rooms, newly finished, painted and papered throughout, a convenient cellar, wood room, garden 45 x 80 feet and a well of never-failing water, situated in a good and desirable neighborhood on Water Street, Meredith Village. For particulars or examination apply to S. A. LANE. tf

The Meredith News.

GEO. F. SANBORN,
PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR.

A great deal of fault is being found at the present time because the legislature has voted an appropriation of $60,000 for the building of a new Normal School edifice at Plymouth. Even the venerable General Marston is profoundly solicitous for the future of our state because of its too liberal policy of granting appropriations. He is at a loss to predict the outcome. That there is great danger of a too free expenditure of the public funds, there can be no doubt, and every honorable means should be taken to guard the public treasury; but it seems to us that state pride alone should prompt its representatives to see to it that its educational institutions of all others should be fully though carefully sustained. It is not a loss of money, nor can we be too extravagant in the maintenance of our schools of knowledge. Their fruits live long after them, and it is to them we owe all we have as a people. It is but natural that other towns should wish to enjoy the benefit of such an institution in their midst, but it should not follow because Plymouth is favored at this time that like edifices should be raised to foster other places. We cannot all have them, but it is the duty of all of us to aid in their maintenance on a high principle and perhaps extravagantly rather than be disgraced by such an institution as our Normal School has been for the past few years. It is but a few cents individually now, but dollars to be gained by placing a careful watch over our institutions of learning.

The prospect of a final adjournment of the legislature next week is good. Much progress has been made the present week, and although nothing of a startling nature has been brought up, the interest at present is over the local option license law, which is under discussion, with a probability of defeat. The Australian ballot bill has been referred to the next legislature. A committee from the House waited on President Harrison in Boston yesterday extending to him a cordial invitation to visit the capital, but it is expected he will not accept.

Spokane Falls, W. T., one of the wonders of the great west in point of growth, was visited by a most disastrous conflagration Monday night, leaving but one business block and involving an estimated loss of $14,000,000. The fire started in a lodging house, and it was due to lack of water that the heroic efforts of the firemen were baffled. Several people from Littleton, N. H., were residents there, some of them being among the city's first settlers, it having grown from a population of 180 in 1880 to 16,816 at the present time.

What can be more sad than the story of the Johnstown clothing merchant whose entire family was taken from him, and his stock valued at $20,000, which included every dollar he had in the world. Wandering among the ruins, demented and penniless, he was sent to Pittsburg with but one solitary dollar in his pocket, although there is still a large reserve of the relief fund.

With one of the best water powers in the country, the city of Spokane Falls, W. T., was reduced to ashes because the water was not properly under control in case of conflagration. Will not this negligence of a thriving community be sufficient to warn much less pretentious towns against delay in providing protection against fire?

President Harrison met with a very flattering reception on his visit to Boston yesterday en route to Bar Harbor as a guest of Secretary Blaine. It is expected the President will make a trip of the White Mountains before his return to Washington.

Monday's dailies are filled with sad drowning accidents either by boating or bathing. The vast number of lessons of this nature serve not one iota to check the reckless destruction of human life by foolhardy adventure.

It is getting more and more fashionable for young men holding positions of trust to gain popularity by forgery or embezzlement.

At the Portsmouth municipal election Tuesday, the Democrats were generally victorious.

Meredith Vicinity.

Waukewan Lodge, No. 9, I. O. G. T.
Meetings every Tuesday evening at their hall in Prescott's block, at 8 o'clock.
GEO. W. BARTLETT, C. T.
J. H. SALTER, SEC.

Concord R. R., White Mt. Div.

Trains leave Meredith Village, as follows:

TRAINS NORTH:

Paper Train	7:40 a. m.
Way Freight	8:35 "
Montreal Express	10:18 p. m.
Mail	11:35 "
Quebec and White Mt. Express	4:25 "
Plymouth Express	8:38 "
Shoe Fly	10:35 "
Paper and Excursion Train, (Sunday)	8:13 a. m.
Montreal Express, (Sunday)	10:55 p. m.

TRAINS SOUTH:

Shoe Fly	7:21 a. m.
Plymouth and Boston Express	7:56 "
Woodsville and Boston Express	8:38 "
Mail	1:44 p. m.
White Mt. and Montreal Ex. (Sunday)	4:44 "
White Mt. Montreal and Boston Express	7:20 p. m.
Excursion and Accommodation, (Sunday)	5:28 "
Accommodation	7:35 "
Way Freight	10:05 "

J. M. BEDEE, Station Agent.

—Nice Concord Grapes at Sanborn's Saturday.

—Mrs. Carl Green is visiting friends in Belmont.

—Mrs. May McKnight has returned from Vermont.

—Geo. S. Hilton, Esq., of Paterson, N. J., is in town.

—Mr. Fred Hodgdon and wife of Haverhill, Mass., are in town.

—Mrs. C. S. Woodman is visiting her former home in Plymouth.

—Geo. S. Hilton, Esq., and wife go to one of the beaches to-day.

—Some more of that Hire's Root Beer, five cents per glass at Sanborn's.

—Blake & Moulton are erecting a stable near their coffin and casket manufactory.

—Mrs. L. D. Moulton's father, of Campton, has been making her a visit recently.

—Misses Rossie and Addie Willey are employed in Morrison's restaurant at Laconia.

—Mrs. Ida Fernald Huse of Haverhill, Mass., is with her mother on Plymouth St.

—Begin with us this week and secure the opening chapters of "Cheque No. 9031."

—Mr. Ezekiel Skinner of Plainfield, Vt., was in town Sunday with his niece, Mrs. M. E. Blake.

—Mr. Forbes and wife, the former cashier of one of the Boston banks, are guests of Mr. J. F. Beede to-day.

—Mr. O. M. Davis and family have returned from a few days' visit to friends in Lake Village and vicinity.

—Mrs. Jane Norris contemplates laying concrete over a sidewalk in front of her residence on Hodgson street.

—Mr. John Hawkins caught a bass near Ragged Mountain Monday, that weighed one ounce of five pounds.

—Mr. Eben F. Roberts and wife of Boston, are making their annual sojourn among relatives and friends in this vicinity.

—Mr. S. S. Wiggin of Massachusetts, formerly of Laconia, has been visiting the family of Mr. O. M. Davis this week.

—Parties from out of town have been favored with very kind treatment by Lake Waukewan black bass the present week.

—The finest 2-cent Bananas at Sanborn's, together with fresh fruit of all seasonable kinds at the corresponding low rates.

—When the rubbish is cleared from our streets, which of course will be done in due time, we shall feel "big," won't we?

—John W. Beede & Co. call attention to many of their specialties in the grocery line in this issue. Don't fail to read their ad.

—Mr. Chester J. Mason found his cow dead in the stable this morning from some unknown cause. She was an unusually valuable one.

—Mr. M. H. Coleman has left the shop of J. W. Quimby & Co., and accepted employment in Merrill's marble works at Laconia.

—Rev. G. A. Curtis expects to be home from Housatonic, Mass. in season to occupy his pulpit in the North Church next Sunday.

—We are enjoying most welcome clear and cool weather, and should be favored with more to follow as a recompense for the past few weeks.

—Wm. O. Clough, Esq., of Nashua and County Commissioner J. Freeman Clough of Manchester, made their mother a visit over Sunday.

—Those Peaches, those Plums, those Bananas, those Watermelons, those Pears, those Lemons, and lots of those good things cheap at Sanborn's.

—The Butterfield house owned by Mr. D. A. Ambrose at the corner of Main and Waukewan streets, is being thoroughly renovated and repaired.

—Mr. Almon Cooley closes his labors in Hodgson's hosiery this week, and will accept a position in the knitting room of F. P. Holt, at Laconia.

—Mr. Fred W. Towle is especially active in clearing up the square. His neighbors seem to be troubled with that tired feeling so often spoken of in patent medicine "ads."

—A brother of Mr. W. M. Rand, who has just returned from a seventeen years' stay in the west, is seriously ill at Manchester, and Mr. Rand has been summoned there.

—Steamer Zulu will run Aug. 11, between Meredith and Weirs, leaving Meredith for Weirs at 9 o'clock, a. m., and returning leave Weirs for Meredith at 5 o'clock p. m. Round trip, 20 cents.

—We understand Mr. C. E. Parsons of West Medford, Mass., has purchased the farm of Mr. H. F. Piper on the Neck, to be occupied by one of his sons in breeding fine horses as a specialty.

—We are told that the hosiery business is booming again, and that no thoughts of a shut-down have been entertained. We are pleased to note the evident future prosperity of our own town with the rest.

—One of the twins of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Pease died at the residence of Mr. M. C. Pease yesterday morning of cholera infantum. Dr. C. R. Gould of Tilton, Mrs. Pease's father, has been in attendance upon the little one.

—Don't forget our band's moonlight excursion to-morrow evening on that magnificent steamer, "Maid of the Isles." They will give you a grand good time if the weather be favorable, and if not, will provide for your pleasure again.

—Mrs. Thomas E. Lang, 87 years of age, walked from her house on Water street to Main street Monday for the first time in two years. She is quite proud of her new undertaking, and expresses herself as having been greatly benefited by it.

—Mr. N. H. Leavitt of Newmarket, the veteran carriage man, was in town Tuesday and left a very fine pony phaeton with Dr. Hawkins. Mr. Leavitt's good deeds have followed him, and established a reputation for square dealing that is winning an abundance of public favor.

—Mr. J. S. Roberts and wife returned from their three weeks' sojourn in the west Thursday evening. Mr. Roberts has been afflicted with erysipelas since his arrival, the appearance of which hastened his return after reaching Massachusetts. He is able to be out and slowly improving.

—Messrs. Ladd and Rollins are making a great improvement to the Crockett house at the corner of Main and Highland streets. A recess will be made at the front entrance, in which double doors will be placed, and a portico over the step will complete a great improvement to the property.

—Concreter Dow has laid a very fine piece of walk on Water street, which shows up as well as any in town. He will lay the crossing to Beede's store, and a walk to the front entrance to Geo. G. Hoyt's residence. The outlook for a walk up Highland street is said not to be so brilliant as is at times reported.

—The season at Moulton Opera House opens the 21st inst. with that popular comedy "Peck's Bad Boy," to be followed the 30th by "Will-o-the-Wisp," both by strong companies. Manager Moulton announces that the curtain will positively rise at 7:45 the coming season in order to accommodate patrons up the line.

—Steamer River Queen will run between our village and The Weirs on the principal days of the Universalist Camp Meeting and Veterans' Reunion as follows: Leave the wharf at the foot of Lake St., August 11, 18, 25, 29, 30, at 9 a. m. and 1 p. m., each day; returning, leave The Weirs at 12 m. and 6 p. m. Tickets 20 cents for the round trip.

—At the regular meeting of Waukewan Lodge, I. O. G. T., Tuesday evening, the following officers were installed by Lodge Deputy Bedee: C. T., Geo. W. Bartlett; V. T., Lillian Sanborn; Sec., J. H. Salter; A. S., Alice Grant; F. S., Geo. Grant; T., Florence Smith; Chap., Maria Kendrick; M., Geo. P. Malloon; D. M., Eva Blake; G., C. E. Hartshorn; Sen., Clarence Cox.

—Sanborn is accurately measuring one mile out from his store on each of the highways leading into town and erecting advertising signs, on each of which is painted an index and "1 mile." The accuracy of the measurement will be quite convenient to many in computing distances. The signs being quite convenient for large practice, notice is respectfully given that any disfigurement of the same is punishable by the law applying to such.

—Some of our people are advocating the removal of Ambrose's piazza and the stone sidewalk in front of Mr. Geo. G. Hoyt Jr.'s residence for the laying of concrete. We are of the opinion that both the above named obstacles should be taken away, and when the time comes we predict the owners will cheerfully consent. Anybody that has a bit of pride will sacrifice a little for the public good and not let their detestable selfishness stand in the way of the prosperity of the town. We have no use for these greedy citizens who have nothing at stake but the good of their fellow beings and their own self will. Could the town be rid of them the great benefit derived from its absence would be manifest.

—Our people have just cause to feel proud of the excellent condition of the highways generally outside the village. They have not been in so good condition for years, if they ever were. Now we don't want to crowd matters, but it seems to us that in view of the wretched condition of Main street, especially toward the station, it would be excellent economy to purchase a stone-crusher at no very distant day. With plenty of material at hand, it would be but a short time before we would be riding over macadamized streets free from mud and constant repair. Sometime, you know; not now, because it won't do to burden the people too much at once. We can take a step at a time, but we must not cease walking right along, and as time rolls rapidly away we will see springing up before us a living monument that will be of some value to us and those that come after us. Let's not let this fever abate until we build up a town that capital will not care to leave, and by which it will of necessity be attended. We most certainly must offer some inducement to outside people or they will continue to shun us. The way to do it is to wake up, and we are happy to say we are rapidly getting our eyes open.

Centre Harbor.

Will Sherman is in town for a few days.

Ex-Gov. Plaisted and wife of Maine are guests at the Senter House.

The Senter House is crowded at the present time, and will be through August.

The Centre Harbor band are to have an excursion next Friday evening on the Lamprey.

Many very fine boats have been brought here this summer by guests, and our little harbor presents a lively appearance.

At this writing Mrs. Sutton is very sick with pneumonia. Dr. Kittredge attends her with Dr. Frost of Peabody and Dr. Walker of Concord in consultation.

The Harbor has at this time the honor of bearing on its waters the queen of all row-boats. To say she is a "thing of beauty" is putting it very mildly. She was designed and built by Mr. C. F. Horr of Hartford, Conn. Mr. Horr is a native of this state and thinks no place is quite equal to Centre Harbor for a summer vacation. Hence he and his accomplished wife are again sojourning at the "Brown Cottage," presided over by that worthy hostess, Mrs. Louisa Wentworth. A brief description of the "Wilhelmina" may be of interest to the readers of the NEWS. She is 17 1-2 feet long and 3 1-2 feet wide, weighs 143 pounds and will carry four or five persons very comfortably. She is propelled by four oars carried by outriggers and worked with ease. She is furnished with all modern conveniences and for real comfort is only excelled by a most sumptuous drawing room. Her outside finish is of 1-4 pine, her gunwales of mahogany and her rail is oak. Her inside is quartered of oak and mahogany, all polished and varnished with the highest degree of the art, and no parlor furniture shows more skillful and ingenious work. She has never yet "rode the wave," Mr. Horr occupied his leisure time for years building this aquatic gem of which every one says "I never saw anything like it—just beautiful."

Meredith Centre.

Miss Evelyn Plummer is visiting in Laconia.

Saturday last, Bert Perkins while engaged in cutting wood, gave his foot a cut some three inches in length. He was taken immediately to the village for attendance, and to remain with his mother until his recovery.

Prof. McConnell of New York sends a general and cordial invitation to all singers in town to meet him at the residence of George Roberts next Saturday eve., at 7:30 sharp. The object of this meeting is to rehearse music to be used at the Weirs Musical Convention next week.

Rev. Mr. Harmon having severed his connection with the Freewill Baptist denomination and resigned his pastorate of this church and people, will preach his farewell sermon next Sunday. All are cordially invited.

Lake View.

The sun shines.

Miss Mary Davis is in East Moultonboro.'

Miss Edith Dow is at home from Meredith.

Irving Dow is at home from Dover for a short visit.

Miss Cora E. Davis is teaching in the Red Hill district.

Capt. G. R. Lamprey was in Boston last week for a few days.

Miss Emma Lavalley is stopping with her sister at Centre Harbor.

Wilber Lamprey is at home cutting their hay with the assistance of Seldon Knowles and Orville Bartlett.

Rev. Mr. Humphrey, who has a summer cottage on Wallace Island, preached at the schoolhouse last Sunday, and Rev. Mr. Haven and a minister from Georgia are to have a meeting there next Sabbath.

Mr. Nathaniel White and wife of Braintree, Mass., who have been visiting Mrs. White's brother, Mr. L. P. Goodhue, left for home last week.

Miss Eunice S. Grace of Barnstead spent a few days at Mr. A. J. Smith's on her way home from the White Mountains.

Piso's Remedy for Catarrh is sold by Geo. F. Sanborn. Price, 50c. 14

STOP!
Read This and Take Advantage of
LOW PRICES!
Osgood & Co.,
(Suc'rs to S. E. Young & Co.)
Are now selling
Watches, Clocks, Jewelry and Plated Table Ware at the
LOWEST LIVING PRICES.
We also have a full line
Optical Goods, Opera Glasses, Pocket Cutlery, Shears, Scissors, Razors, Etc.
All in want of Watch, Clock and Jewelry
REPAIRING
We can suit. With the best of workmen we are able to do any and all kinds of repairing. Call and see us.
OSGOOD & Co.,
114 Main Street, Laconia, N. H.

TRY Country Luck.
John Habberton has written many good stories. This is one of his best.
Watch for the Opening Chapters!

O. E. OSGOOD.
THE POPULAR GARMENT OF THE SEASON
PEASANT
WATERPROOF CIRCULARS,
Wrappers, Tea Gowns, Boys' Waists, Girls' Tiers,
LADIES' & CHILDREN'S COTTON UNDERWEAR
A SPECIALTY.
Special Bargain in a Black
SILK PARASOL
Gents' and Ladies' Umbrellas.
SUMMER CORSETS, GLOVES, HOSIERY,
—ALL KINDS OF—
WASH * MATERIAL * FOR * DRESSES.
Under Town Hall, Opp. Elm House,
Meredith, - N. H.

THE POPULAR STYLES
—IN BOTH—
Woolens & Garments
FROM THE SAME, MAY BE RELIED ON AT
Wadleigh's Merchant Tailoring Rooms
Wiggin's Block,
Meredith, N. H.
THE VERY LATEST NOVELTIES IN OUR
Gents' Furnishing Goods
DEPARTMENT.
—AGENCY FOR—
Malden Dye H[illegible] and Concord Steam Laundry
J. S. WADLEIGH.

PEASE & TOWLE
Are Constantly Receiving Additions to Their Stock of
CHOICE GROCERIES
AND CANNED GOODS.
The Usual Line of
PAINTS, OILS AND HARDWARE.
MEREDITH, - - N. H.

Spring Opening
—AT—
AMBROSE'S
With a Large Variety of New Goods at prices as low as the lowest. We quote prices on ASH SETS from $18. upward; SPRING BEDS a $1.25; Lounges, at $5.50; 5 SPINDLE CHAIRS, 37 cents; CHILDREN'S CARRIAGES from $5.00 upwards; 4000 ROLLS PAPER hanging in stock, with BORDERS to match, etc., etc.
Thanking our patrons for past favors, we hope by strict attention to business and
LOW PRICES!
To merit a continuance of same.
Proof of pudding, etc. Call and see for yourselves,
Don't fail to get prices before buying.

THE MEREDITH NEWS.

AS WE VIEW IT.

Tender landscape, regal in its splendor.
Smiling with a look half proud, half tender,
Seems a shrouded corpse when dense fogs roll.
Life is glorious when the rays of duty
Shine upon it from a living soul;
Sun on hills and glades are robed and lonely
If a selfish mist hangs o'er the whole.
Seeming truth grows false, if we have not love;
Truth's best diamond, priceless if he know it;
Life is good or bad, accord- ing as we choose.
Life is as you view it.

Wasting wealth of heart, the miser's treasure,
Now too small to purchase lofty pleasure,
Soon will be a shattered casket, or worse,
Love, contentment, goodness, hopes entwined.
Maize thy passion, slumber though his pains,
Vainly either thou the whole master win;
Star-blessed, unconscious universe,
Mental wealth, whose very name is unknown,
Boundless lies for all whose minds pursue it;
Man is rich or poor, just as he fashion
Wealth in his own view.

Life's fields, fluttering freely in the arrangent,
Oft bloom not, in soon burst at the longest;
Trust live; we're only here for a day.
Always awful now, yet daily brightening.
In our power, that rides the foaming waves,
Weighs the planets, measures the sun's shining.
Changes fire and air to docile slaves.
Man can humble Nature if she hides him,
Set her some hard task, and make her do it;
Man is weaker than the steed that bears him:
Power is no virtue.

Knowing not where Truth's first step commences,
Since the sages say our very senses
Teach fallacies, darken, dark us and die;
Priceless thoughts that time in its long travels
Through past ages gathered, upon its;
Science shows the phantom of the world
Nature's secrets, writ on earth and sky,
But the wondrous volume spread before us
Needs eternity to read right through it.
All is darkness! Floods of light flow o'er us!
Which is true we view it.

One last gasp, and then the low death rattle!
Glass unveil'd, beaten in the battle,
Landing all things with the world invests.
Life has given, but intensely brighter
In the gift of a sudden death.
When the soul, in that each moment lighter,
Hoodless now of what the vain world saith,
Seeing what it knew before.
Feels the fey hand, yet dares to woo it:
Death is endless being, or endless morning.
Death is as we view it.

—The Academy.

FORCED APART

By W. CLARK RUSSELL,

Author of the "Wreck of the Grosvenor," "A Sailor's Sweetheart," Etc.

CHAPTER XXIII.

MRS. MEAD RETURNS TO GREYSTONE.

"I believe I've a right to know. Never could I hold up my head if they got saying it were Judith Mead as helped Michael's girl to run away and leave her character behind her," said Mrs. Mead to herself as the stage drove off, and upon a loosened truss of hay she sat, regardless of the dust, with her eyes staring out of the shadow at the pretty little house that was dropping behind.

It was eleven o'clock when they arrived at the top of the High street of Greystone.

"Think I do, mister," exclaimed Mrs. Mead, who had got up opinion of the driver by this time, and was weary of the jolting inflicted on her, and the miserably slow way they made; "he mustn't go no further."

Johnny, however, refused to take any notice of her request. There was an ale house some distance down the street, and there until the wagon was alsmost of it did he cry, "Whoa." Then dropping from his perch, with a bottle of refreshment in his hand, he came round to the back of the cart, and said, "Ye can get down here if ye looks."

The old woman screamed out as best she could, and Johnny looked on with a grin at her boots. Then correcting his smile as she faced round upon him, he said:

"This here's the Wheatsheaf, and the fairey in the liquor is as fine as though 'twar all price used."

"You're welcome to drink as much as ever they'll trust ye with," replied Mrs. Mead fiercely.

"Aren't ye goin' to stand summat?" cried the man.

"Yes, half a pint o' vinegar, if ye're good to drink it," answered the old woman.

"Go along, or I'll get ye drowned for a whelk," shouted the disappointed Johnny; and off he went, chuckling audibly.

Not ten yards, however, could she go without meeting an acquaintance. The first was the bar oil Mrs. Bruff, going to her snuff shop in George street, with her dinner in a paper parcel.

"Good mornin', Mrs. Mead. How are you? Tin an age sin I seen ye my way."

"I'm Judith Mead right enough," Mrs. Bruff. As to comin' your way, what hath snuff to say to a lone old critter that counts her valley in farden? Not much, I'm a-thinkin', truly. Them and the dogs knows what's good," exclaimed Mrs. Mead, with a glance at the paper parcel, "and I'm sure I'm glad to see say that prosperity draws strange things to the door."

"Ye're alive, gossip," cried Mrs. Bruff, in a pretty, jaded! Five and fourpence was my takings last week, scarce three traves in five thanks to them waggoners. French, do ye a favor for them I ain't a man."

"Well, and ye give me no news! That two people should roast o' things to eat and not have to say! But they've wonderful liars i' Greystone," said Mrs. Mead.

"Oh, to them!" replied Mrs. Bruff, with a ludicrous toss of the head. "Why, here I stand for truth; for, as you my, they're dreadful i' Greystone."

"The truth o' what?"

"But you know!" exclaimed Mrs. Bruff, looking at her aged companion with shrewd inerudity in her face.

"I do not know," replied Mrs. Mead, with the composure of a lodger in a workhouse. "I am the minute arrived from Winston, and if anything hath happ'd I'm as strange to it as a unborn child."

"Why, then," said Mrs. Bruff, speaking slowly, and with evident sense of superiority, "it's wonderful how things do happen, schools! Selda's wench hath run away for shame o' the wrong done her by Dr. Shaw's son. But that's not it, neither. Selda's wench is gone since, I met Deacon Skelton, who says to me, 'Is it true, Mrs. Bruff, that my brother Strangfield is dead?' says I, 'I'm afeard,' says I, 'I hope not, Mr. Skelton.' 'I'm afeard he is, then,' he says. 'Jim Mason,' he says, him as lives at the Blue Boar, 'hath the news from Tun Raffles, as it counts to the Strangfields' service; Polly her name is. She was sent for the doctor, and found the door in bright so her mother—who's kept her bed sin April, poor wretch—as says that Strangfield died last night at ten o'clock by man.' 'Lord bless me, sir!' says I."

"That's news indeed!" exclaimed Mrs. Mead, very pale and quiet with her emotion.

"If it's true, it's as strange a visitation as any that ever I read of in Holy Writ. Good by to ye, Mrs. Yeard," cried Mrs. Bruff. "Lord save us! what wonderful things happen in this life!"

She was limping rapidly away before Mrs. Bruff could return her farewell.

She was too experienced a gossip herself to believe the story she had heard implicitly; but then, like wise, she well knew that almost never does any story get abroad without foundation. They say a great deal of lies where there is only a spark; but be sure there is fire of some kind.

Hastily down the street she went. Arrived at her home, she washed her face, brushed her hair, dusted her bonnet and shoes, and, glancing at the kitchen clock, to make sure of a bit of dinner to be cooked on her return, she sallied forth once more, and walked direct to Strangfield's house.

No outward and visible sign there was of anything being amiss.

Mrs. Mead knocked softly, and, with unconscious level in her by the dislike bore her by the Strangfields, kept herself close, that she might not be spied by any stray glance from the window. No one responding, she knocked again loudly, and presently the door was opened by Mrs. Strangfield herself.

The desolate within said grief of the poor woman's face was not the sight a visitor keen moving to behold. The utter forlornness of the eyes, the piteous droop of the mouth, the dishevelment of hair and attire, which late grief throws a violent dramatic element, were beyond expression. She looked at Mrs. Mead, while the old lady babbled a courtesy, as a person to whom everything that offers has a meaning, crazily hard to master.

"Oh! forbid, mistress," said Mrs. Mead, "ye should think I am come out of evil curiosity. They say the Seasons hath been stricken ill, and positively would I know this from one who hath the truth."

"Why do you come here for news? This is a house of mourning now. I am a desolate, lonely woman. Heaven help me," replied Mrs. Strangfield in a broken voice.

"Or, indeed, ye be, if it is only for your daughter's leavin' ye," said Mrs. Mead, with deep consolation. "But what hath happ'd in the dencoul For the Lord's sake let me hear it of you, ma am!"

"He hath been struck with paralysis and lies dying and calling for his daughter. That is the truth. And now must I go to him, for your pooch has brought me news of his end, and the maid is away on an errand, and I am alone in the house."

She spoke with a feebility of exhausted grief, and was stepping back to close the door.

"Stay!" cried Mrs. Mead, "I bring thee news of thy child."

The mother wheeled round with a shriek, and with her hands flung out her arms.

"What of her! Is she living?"

"Living and well. Not an hour ago I left her."

Mrs Strangfield had no words. The sudden dispersion of the fears that had tore her heart was a moment too much for her deprived her of speech. She stood with her fingers clutching hard the old woman's arm. Then incoherently she spoke:

"Sweet girl! How hath she been wronged! My pretty one! Alive, indeed, and I have been praying for her dead. Oh, you good sent to befall the pure in heart! God forgive us!

She drooped and leaned toward Mrs. Mead, and brought the old lady's head to her breast and kissed it, weeping the while such tears as only mothers weep.

"Alive and well!" she burst out again. "Dear heart, to bring me such good tidings! Come in, come in! God is good to send them! Dear Father in heaven, how good!"

With drops trickling down her furrowed cheek, Mrs. Mead suffered herself to be drawn into the house by the passionate mother.

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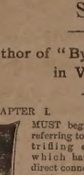
CHEQUE NO. 9031.

A FASCINATING ROMANCE OF A LONDON SUBURB.

By the Author of "By Crooked Paths," "Sheathed in Velvet," Etc.

CHAPTER I.



I MUST begin by referring to a few trifling events which have a direct connection with my story, otherwise it will hardly be understood why I behaved as I did when the crisis arrived. I know that many of my friends have accused me of culpable weakness, and even of conniving at crime; but then they do not know all the facts of the case.

I am a colonial merchant, by name Gerald Quinton, and at the time I am going to speak of I was 33 years of age. My father had been dead about fifteen months, and I was still living with my mother and my one unmarried sister in the pleasant old gray stone house at Clayhill, which I had looked upon as my home all my life long. My sister was my mother's only son among five daughters; and, if I was not as conceited a specimen of humanity as one could meet in a day's journey, the fact was due to my father's wise foresight in sending me here, there, and everywhere for a year or two's residence at one or another of his distant branch houses, instead of keeping me at home to be spoilt by the women.

Now, however, I had promised my mother not to roam again unless under the pressure of actual necessity, and had taken my place as the resident head of the house of Quinton, Hill, Cruxhammer & Co., of Billiter street, E. C., Montreal, Port Elizabeth, Melbourne, Bombay, etc.

This matter of self introduction over, I come to a more difficult part of my story—the introduction of my heroine. She was the only daughter of the leading Clayhill doctor, and her name was Cynthia Debenham. She had one brother, two years younger than herself. Cynthia was 23 and Horace 21 when my story begins with the death of their father, Dr. Debenham.

I had gone down by my usual train, the 4:30 from Liverpool street, and was surprised, on leaving the carriage at Clayhill, to see my sister Jemima waiting by the door of the station with a worried, anxious look on her face, which was most unusual.

"Hallo, Jem," I exclaimed—she was named Jemima after her godmother, a rich maiden aunt; and her only consolation under the affliction was that the obnoxious name was capable of this manly contraction—"what are you doing down here at this time? Isn't this the hour usually devoted to tea and scandal, served up hot?"

She did not answer me; and, looking at her more closely, I made the astounding discovery that she had been crying. I hurried her into the dog cart without another word, and waited before asking my next question until we were clear of the straggling stream of passengers.

"What is it, old lady? Don't break down out here if you can possibly avoid it. What has happened?"

"Dr. Debenham is dead."

"Dead? Good heavens, how shocking! Why, he went up with me this morning, Jem, and seemed in splendid spirits! Was it an accident?"

"No; he came down by the 1:30, took a fly, and went straight home. Cynthia was surprised to see him back so soon, and wanted to get him some luncheon; but he said he didn't want to be bothered, and almost shut the study door in her face. She said she thought there was something rather strange in his manner, and felt anxious, thinking the sun had been too much for him, or something of the kind. So, instead of going away, she sat down in the hall to be near him. She was tired, having been in the garden all the morning, and, sitting there in the silent hall, was almost asleep, when she was aroused by the sound of something heavy falling inside her father's study. Without stopping a moment to think, she rushed in and found him lying face downwards upon the floor. They did everything they could, but Mr. Jennings declares he was dead when he fell."

"And what do they say it is?"

"Heart disease; but there is to be an inquest."

"Poor Cynthia!"

"She is wonderfully calm," said Jem, with the tears running down her good natured brown face. "If she had cried and made ever so little fuss, I should not have been so upset; but her patient, mournful white face is more than I can stand. She grieves terribly about Horace. He and his father parted in anger the last time they met, and she thinks the memory of their quarrel will be so terrible for the poor boy now."

"A good for nothing young scapegrace!" I muttered, with a complete absence of sympathy. "She need not worry herself on that score, Jem; Horace won't grieve much, unless his own interests are touched very nearly. Who is with Cynthia now?"

"The mother. We want her to come home with us to-night."

"She'll not do that, I'm certain, Jem; she won't leave the house until after the funeral. Cynthia is not the girl to spare herself when there are duties to perform, and she will think it her duty to stay at the house in Park street until everything is over. Then she'll come home, too, to look after. Can he get here to-night?"

"He can get up to town from Oxford; but I'm afraid he'll miss the last train down. Here's Park street. Will you come and see Cynthia?"

I shrunk instinctively from this suggestion. I loved Cynthia very dearly; and I believed she loved me—in fact, she had almost admitted that her duty to her father and brother was the only obstacle when I had asked her—it's no use to beat about the bush any longer—to be my wife. Anything I could do for her good, I would; yet the thought of going to Dr. Debenham's house just now was repugnant to me.

"Will come if I can be of any use," I said, feeling some self contempt at my own weakness; "but I don't suppose she will see me, Jem."

"Perhaps not; but it will look kind; and, even if you don't see her, you may be of use."

So we got down, left the cart at the top of the street, and went in at the smart chocolate colored gates, and round the neat drive to the side door of the doctor's prosperous looking house. I could scarcely realize that he lay dead within, cut down in the prime of his manhood by this awfully sudden stroke! The scarlet geraniums and the roses were in full bloom on the front lawns—vivid patches of color in the July sunshine; and, on the tennis lawn at the side of the house, the nets were still up.

Jem and I had been playing there the night before, and I had picked a pebble off the grass and put it on the top of the summer house. I remembered some remark the doctor had made about the stone remaining there until I took it down again—I was reputed to be the tallest man in Clayhill. As I turned into the grounds I saw the pebble still where I had put it, and the trifling incident brought home to me a swift realization of the words, "In the midst of life we are in death." I had to wait a few minutes in the little side passage to recover my self possession before I risked meeting poor Cynthia. She saw me just for a few moments.

"Your mother has been so good, Gerald!" she said gratefully, raising her patient hazel eyes to mine. "But I can't come to you, as she wishes. There is Horace to be thought of, you see; he will suffer so terribly over this! We shall want to be alone together until the first shock is over. I shall go and know I'm grateful all the same, won't you?"

Jem was right! This calm, self contained grief was a thousand times more touching than cries and sobs would have been. As she stood there, with the tears quivering in her standfast eyes and her lips set in the saddest curve I have ever seen, but without a sound or movement about her suggestive of the wild abandon of grief, I felt as if some one had suddenly clutched my throat in a grip of steel. I raised her hand to my lips in passionate sympathy, and left her with my mother.

Before that week was out Cynthia Debenham had need of all the sympathy we could give her. When the affairs of the dead man were examined, they were found to be in an almost hopeless state of muddle. He had dabbled in financial schemes, and on the day of his death he had lost about twelve hundred pounds. This discovery left no doubt in my own mind that his money troubles had had a large share in causing the suicide.

Horace, when he found how things were, wanted to offer the creditors a composition; but Cynthia succeeded, by dint of patient persuasion, in talking him out of this idea. The brother and sister came to us the evening after the funeral, and discussed their future plans in the twilight after dinner.

"Horace wanted to secure a few hundreds out of the estate and emigrate," Cynthia told me afterwards, as we moved from the others; "but I knew it was a hopeless scheme. What do we know about farming or sheep raising? We should soon be the swindled out of our little capital, and come home at the end of a year or so absolute paupers. Besides, there is our father's good name to be thought of. Selger tells me that, if we are satisfied to leave everything for the creditors, we shall be able to pay them in full."

"That," I remonstrated, "the creditors themselves would not expect such a denial as that. It would be preposterous to leave yourselves without a penny in the world!"

"Now, don't be hard on my poor little plan!" she whispered pleadingly. "You don't know what trouble I've had to talk Horace into it; and, if he once gets a notion that you are against it too, I shall have all my trouble over again. I assure you, Gerald, it is the only honest course open to us! As for being cramped for money, I shall only be going back with the hundred and fifty a year you have offered Horace and the sixty or seventy I shall earn!"

"You earn? How?"

The tone of her voice was more pleading than ever as she answered softly:

"I mean to get an engagement as daily governess in a family."

"It is all a pack of romantic nonsense!" I exclaimed, angrily. "Why can't you make yourself contented here with my mother and Jem for a few months until your first affliction in the loss of your father is over, and then come to the home I will prepare for you?"

"You are so good, Gerald! But Horace"—

"Why should your life be sacrificed to Horace?" I cried again. "If he can't live alone on his salary, let him come and live here on his home allowance, as you do to my mother when I am not living with her."

Her face flushed vividly, but she suppressed her emotion and answered quietly enough:

"Do you think we could consent to live on your charity like that? Even while you propose it you know well enough how impossible it is for Horace to accept such an offer."

"Then let him live en garcon in those lodgings you speak of, and you come here to my mother until— Ah do, Cynthia! I cried impetuously, as I saw her lips tightening resolutely. "Let me help you not to expose yourself to the petty wearing discomforts of such a life as you propose. You can form no idea of what it is like!"

"It is all very well for you to talk about living en garcon, with your knowledge of the world and your extended experience, not to speak of your thirty odd years of wisdom. But with Horace a lonely life in London would be a very different thing. Think of the poor boy—he is really not more—after a long day's work in the office with nothing to go home to but empty rooms! Would he go home to them? You know he would not. I don't want you to think I imagine that the mere knowledge of my presence will always keep him steady, but I do believe it must have a certain influence for good with him. It will make him a little careful in choosing the men he brings to his home, for one thing, and that in itself is worth making some sacrifice for. My poor mother always recognized Horace's one rock ahead, his moral weakness; and his godfather, Capt. Sillicotes, used to say that he carried plenty of canvas, but was short of ballast. That's what I am going to be—his ballast. The day before mother died I promised her faithfully that I would take her place as far as I was able, and I must keep my word."

I knew every sentence she had spoken was the distilled wisdom, and yet my very heart and soul seemed to cry out against this sacrifice of our two lives. Knowing well enough that I was beaten, I yet put forth one last faint plea, but without any hope whatever for its success.

"And what about me, Cynthia?" I asked, still holding her hand in mine, so that she should not escape and leave the question unanswered. "Have I any claim at all among your unselfish schemes? Is everybody's good and comfort to be thought of but mine? Am I the only person for whom you have no consideration?"

She flushed again, with evident signs of distress, and tried to withdraw her hand, but I would not let her.

"You cannot compare yourself to poor Horace," she whispered, so low that I had to bend my head to catch the sound, "for I know all this is hard on you, Gerald, and you will never know how sorry I am to be the cause of trouble to you; but I've thought it all out very carefully, and have come to the conclusion that my first duty at present is to my brother. Look at his position. Last week he was at the university, with a decent allowance from his father; today he has a clerkship in prospect, and years of drudgery before he can hope for any measure of success. In this comparative poverty he has no one in the world to stand by him but one well intentioned but inexperienced woman. In choosing between you how can I refuse to stand by him in his loneliness and disappointment? You have wealth, position, friends and relations, while he—"

"That is enough!" I interposed, shamed out of my selfishness for the moment by her great hearted generosity. "You are right, Cynthia, as you always are. But, if I could have my choice, dear, I would give your brother all the wealth and position in exchange for you, and think it the best bargain I had ever made."

Her pale face lighted up radiantly at this. "You've done the best stroke of business a your power for the boy," I added jokingly. "You'll see at what a surprising rate he'll climb to the tallest stool in the counting house of Quinton, Hill, Cruxhammer & Co. And then, as soon as he's worthy of it—a sufficiently high salary to support a wife, I shall marry him off hand; and then"—The last word left my lips in a tone of triumph which I saw was a mistaking, and she smiled in a manner that was as good as a spoken assent.

"Well," said Jem, as we joined the other group, in which Horace had been holding forth to my mother and sister on what he should have done at the Antipodes if he had been allowed to follow his inclinations—"well, Gerald, have you been able to talk that wise head into a reasonable frame of mind? Have you converted her from this governessing madness?"

"Au contraire, she has converted me, Jem!"

"I should like to hit you," said Jem, shaking her little brown fist close to Cynthia's nose and then, changing her mind, she put her arms round my darling's neck and squeezed her tightly. "You poor, pale, beautiful old thing," she said, with an old little catch in her voice—"what an example you are to the rest of us!"

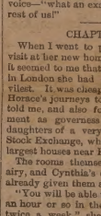
CHAPTER II.

When I went to pay Cynthia my first visit at her new home at Kentish Town, it seemed to me that of all the vile places in London she had certainly chosen the vilest. It was cheap, and consequently was Horace's journeys to Billiter street, she told me, and also for her daily appointments as governess to the two little daughters of a very great man on the Stock Exchange, who lived in one of the largest houses near Regent's park.

The rooms themselves were light and airy, and Cynthia's cunning fingers had already given them a look of home.

"You will be able to put up with it for an hour or so in the afternoon, once or twice a week," she said, in her most downright style; "because I shall take care to have everything always at its best tea o'clock, on the chance of your coming. But you would soon find the difference if you were to spend the whole evening here, and sleep and get up and dress to go next morning. Every day since we've been here the people downstairs have had bloaters for breakfast; I don't think you would care to make your first meal off the odor of your neighbor's. Then the street organs begin so early here; I think most of the men's daily rounds must commence at this end of the town, for we've had two or three organs every morning at breakfast."

"I think I could stand the organs bet-



ter than the odorous breakfast," I said, with a grimace; and she less glad and declared she had almost ceased to notice it now.

Things went on like this for three months, I, in my selfishness, running over to Kentish Town as often as I possibly could for an afternoon chat with Cynthia, and never thinking to ask if it were convenient for her to have me there so frequently, when Christmas time came and brought with it a disquieting discovery. Cynthia was looking worn and ill, I assured. I had not seen her in the clear unmerciful glare of dazzling sunlight since she left Clayhill, in September, until she went back there to spend the blessed respite of her Christmas holidays with us.

We all three went down together—she, Horace and I—by the quiet train on the Christmas eve, and there was so much mutual pleasure over the meeting and such an amount of news to be exchanged among the indies that even my mother, one of the most observant women in the world where people's looks are concerned, was deceived by her visitor's animation during the evening of her arrival. But when Cynthia entered the breakfast room on Christmas morning, with the sunlight shining full upon her face I stopped half way as I went to meet her, with the dear old greeting on my lips, and stood looking at her in sudden speechless dismay.

I stopped half way as I went to meet her.

"What is it?" she asked, alarmed at my manner. "Has anything happened? Is Horace"—

"He's all right," I said, going on towards her and putting my arms round her and enabling her decently.

How was it I had not seen this change in her before? She had always been pale, so I did not set much store by her present pallor, but it had brought out that look of distress to her face—that wild, anxious expression into her eyes, that sadly pathetic droop about the corners of her lips.

All through breakfast time I asked myself these questions over and over again, with ever increasing anger at my own blindness in not having noticed the change before. My mother and Jem saw it, too, I knew, but they made no remark on the alteration to Cynthia herself, and I wondered why they were thus silent.

I took Jem aside after breakfast and spoke to her about it.

"Haven't I noticed the change?" she cried, echoing my words ironically. "Why, I went back to the mother after I had been to wish Cynthia a merry Christmas in my night dress this morning, and told Her I didn't know whether your cook had been for the past three months not to have seen it coming on. Whatever you do, don't say anything to her about it! She was quite distressed, and could hardly keep back the tears. I told her she didn't look well, and she forced such high spirits all the rest of the time I was in the room that I could have cried over her."

"Her unvarying cheerfulness before me all this time must have been assumed, Jem. You know I can't see her until after 4, because of the forenoon's dull governess business. She doesn't leave Radford's until half-past 8, except on Saturdays; and she asked me to leave her that afternoon for Horace, so I have not seen her by daylight for months until this morning. What's to be done?"

Jem looked round cautiously before she answered.

"We have arranged it beautifully. The mother is going to have symptoms of sciatica to-morrow morning, and Dr. Jennings is to be sent for to apply the battery. Of course, hearing Cynthia is here, he will want to say 'How d'ye do' and before he sees her I shall tell him how anxious we are about her. He'll manage to take her temperature very correctly, without letting her into the secret."

That was not a very cheerful Christmas day for me. We had decided, on account of Cynthia's mourning, to make our party a strictly family affair; but, even if the great old house had been full of guests, I should still have carried that dead weight of care in my heart—a weight which increased with every glance at Cynthia's face throughout the day.

After dinner, when Horace and I were alone, I tried to sound him about his sister's health; but he either would not or could not give me any information. Being conscious of a hostile bias in my judgment of all Horace's proceedings and doings, I was always trying to counterbalance it by giving him the benefit of the doubt, when there was room for doubt at all. So, when he told me he had not noticed any change in Cynthia, that she never complained, never seemed ill, and was always in good spirits, I tried hard to believe he spoke as he really thought, and that in very truth he had not noticed the alteration that had so scared us all.

"He is such a disgustingly selfish young beggar," I told myself—"as long as his poor girl's illness did not prevent her from attending to his little wants he would let her die before his eyes, and never notice it."

The next day, when Jennings came, I contrived to be in the library with Cynthia. As this was not to be an acknowledged professional visit, I knew there could be no impropriety in my being present. Jennings and Dr. Belenham had been old friends, and there was considerable cordiality on both sides when he and Cynthia met. I stepped back a few paces, watching and listening; and through all the medical small talk of fitness I could see how keenly observant he was of Cynthia's every movement.

"And how do you like the governessing?" he asked presently. "You have had a long spell of it, Miss Debenham—eh, Quinton?" He glanced at me swiftly, and then turned his eyes again to Cynthia's face, saying abruptly: "Then it certainly is not the governessing that makes you so terribly wakeful at night."

At these words a deep flush suffused her cheeks and forehead, and there was a sudden expression of fear in the quick glance she gave Jennings. She at once suppressed all signs of emotion, however, and laughed rather nervously.

"Who told you I was wakeful?" she asked, with a playfully defiant air; and then, without giving him time to answer the question, she broke off into a whole string of inquiries concerning the battery and the other person, and completely blocked the subject of her own health.

When Jennings went, I left the room with him, meaning to ask his opinion in the hall; but Cynthia followed us with some forgotten question—remembered, I believe, on the spur of the moment, to prevent Jennings from saying anything to me. She evidently did not suspect that the existence of our plot, and wanted to keep him from imparting his judgment to any of us.

I was too anxious to wait until my next meeting with the doctor, so I put on my hat, and walked to the gate with him.

"Well," I said, as soon as we were out of earshot, "what do you think? Is there anything really wrong with Cynthia's health?"

His answer, in the form of another question, set me wondering.

"What is it that is worrying her?"

"Nothing that I know of, or can guess at."

"And yet she has a worry of some sort, Quinton—a worry that is over present with her. Can't you get her to tell you what it is?"

"How can I? You saw yourself how ill she looked the moment you spoke of her health."

"Ah, her health, from a purely physical point of view, is right enough! I mean she would be in perfect health but for this mental disturbance. She has one of the soundest constitutions I have known. I wish you could find out what it is that is bothering her so."

"I'll try," I returned rather hopelessly; "but I'm afraid it will be of no use. If she had meant me to know she would have told me voluntarily. But, if she does not mean me to know, it is not of any use my trying to find out."

"Well, something ought to be done," he said, with an emphasis which convinced me he thought rather seriously of the matter. "She has evidently had a heavy strain on her nerves for some time—a haunting trouble, I should fancy; and no strongest mind cannot stand successfully against that sort of thing. I don't like that insomnia! How does she look the first thing in the morning?"

"Why, that is just what first opened my eyes!" I cried, startled by the doctor's words. "She was ordered for her ills when she came down to breakfast yesterday morning; her face was quite haggard and dark."

"Ah!" he said thoughtfully—"scarcely any sleep at all, and what sleep she does get is so tormented and worried by dreams that she had almost better be awake. Quinton, I'll send you a scarce beyond the reach of pills or draughts. I could certainly give her something to send her to sleep, but it would be no real good. What you want—and it is the only thing that will be of any use—is relief to the mind. Let me see—this is Friday, and she is not to see me until Monday afternoon, you say. I'll look in again on Sunday first—"

I [illegible] drooped expressively as he held out his hands, and I watched him march away in the full flush of health and feeling desperately wretched and helpless.

What was I to do—or, rather, what could I do if Cynthia still chose to maintain a profound reserve?

However, I determined to make an effort to discover what really ailed her, so after luncheon I ordered the dog cart, after 4, because of the governessing business. She tried to get out of it at first, but I was determined, and at length she gave way. She had pleaded the cold as a valid excuse, so, when she came down dressed, I sent for my mother's fur lined carriage cloak and insisted on her wearing it over all her other garments, and saw myself that the foot tin was really hot before we started.

We talked on every day matters until we were fairly through Clayhill and out on the open road beyond, and then I looked round to my companion.

"Does the cold get in anywhere?" I asked, turning round to see that the bearskin was well tucked in on her side. She looked up at me with a pretty coquettish air of delightful coaxing out with you, Gerald—you take such care of one." The drive is doing you good already," I said, jocularly.

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"You could do have more air than you do, Cynthia. I don't believe you could have those wakeful nights Jennings spoke of if you spent more time out of doors."

She paused before replying, and I almost fancied she argued with herself during those few moments whether it would be wiser to tackle the subject head on, or to feel her way cautiously before she let it drop. Whether she discussed the matter or not, she adopted the former course.

"Did you mentioned that," she said, speaking slowly at first, but more quickly as she warded on, with a crescendo of incredulity: "very glad, indeed, to hear you say what might have occurred to Mr. Jennings if I had said a word to him—that is all a myth in the way I put it. He spoke as if it were a serious matter—as if I never got any sleep at all, while the truth is I have slept as well as ever I did in my life, and am not the least fortnight by violent neuralgia."

"Then why didn't you tell Jennings that?" replied, looking steadily at her.

She looked through all the medical case, and a sad little tremor passed over her face; it was almost an admission of untruth, and I was going to overwhelm her with an avalanche of entreaties for her confidence, but she was too quick for me.

"Can't you see for yourself why I did not tell Mr. Jennings?" she said, with a pathetic little laugh that was very painful to hear. "He would have dosed me unmercifully with nauseous messes, and I wanted to have my little holiday down here in peace."

"Cynthia," I remonstrated, laying one hand upon hers, and, after glancing ahead to see that the road was clear, letting the reins lie very much as she liked, "won't you tell me about this trouble that has crept into your life, dear? If the force of circumstances keeps us apart, there is no reason why we should not help each other in every way we possibly can. Let me help you now."

Her lips quivered, but she kept her self control wonderfully as she answered me, while her eyes fixed upon the horizon:

"You have helped me, Gerald—nobody could have helped me as you have; you have been the soul of generosity and forbearance always. I don't need any help from you now, dear."

"Who told you I needed help?" I demanded, with a playfully defiant air: and then, without giving him time to answer the question, she broke off into a whole string of inquiries concerning the battery and the other person, and completely blocked the subject of her own health.

When Jennings went, I left the room with him, meaning to ask his opinion in the hall; but Cynthia followed us with some forgotten question—remembered, I believe, on the spur of the moment, to prevent Jennings from saying anything to me. She evidently did not suspect that the existence of our plot, and wanted to keep him from imparting his judgment to any of us.

I was too anxious to wait until my next meeting with the doctor, so I put on my hat, and walked to the gate with him.

"Well," I said, as soon as we were out of earshot, "what do you think? Is there anything really wrong with Cynthia's health?"

His answer, in the form of another question, set me wondering.

"What is it that is worrying her?"

"Nothing that I know of, or can guess at."

"And yet she has a worry of some sort, Quinton—a worry that is over present with her. Can't you get her to tell you what it is?"

"How can I? You saw yourself how ill she looked the moment you spoke of her health."

"Ah, her health, from a purely physical point of view, is right enough! I mean she would be in perfect health but for this mental disturbance. She has one of the soundest constitutions I have known. I wish you could find out what it is that is bothering her so."

"I'll try," I returned rather hopelessly; "but I'm afraid it will be of no use. If she had meant me to know she would have told me voluntarily. But, if she does not mean me to know, it is not of any use my trying to find out."

"Well, something ought to be done," he said, with an emphasis which convinced me he thought rather seriously of the matter. "She has evidently had a heavy strain on her nerves for some time—a haunting trouble, I should fancy; and no strongest mind cannot stand successfully against that sort of thing. I don't like that insomnia! How does she look the first thing in the morning?"

"Why, that is just what first opened my eyes!" I cried, startled by the doctor's words. "She was ordered for her ills when she came down to breakfast yesterday morning; her face was quite haggard and dark."

"Ah!" he said thoughtfully—"scarcely any sleep at all, and what sleep she does get is so tormented and worried by dreams that she had almost better be awake. Quinton, I'll send you a scarce beyond the reach of pills or draughts. I could certainly give her something to send her to sleep, but it would be no real good. What you want—and it is the only thing that will be of any use—is relief to the mind. Let me see—this is Friday, and she is not to see me until Monday afternoon, you say. I'll look in again on Sunday first—"

I [illegible] drooped expressively as he held out his hands, and I watched him march away in the full flush of health and feeling desperately wretched and helpless.

What was I to do—or, rather, what could I do if Cynthia still chose to maintain a profound reserve?

However, I determined to make an effort to discover what really ailed her, so after luncheon I ordered the dog cart, after 4, because of the governessing business. She tried to get out of it at first, but I was determined, and at length she gave way. She had pleaded the cold as a valid excuse, so, when she came down dressed, I sent for my mother's fur lined carriage cloak and insisted on her wearing it over all her other garments, and saw myself that the foot tin was really hot before we started.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Ex-Secretary Whitney announces that the story that he is about to back a new weekly paper in Washington, having for its purpose his nomination as the next Democratic candidate for President, is without foundation. To this he adds the denial of any willingness to accept a nomination to "this or any other office." Of course, there will be ample time for Mr. Whitney to change his mind.

So far as founding a Washington weekly for the purpose of influencing politics is concerned, Mr. Whitney is too good a business man to make such an unprofitable investment. The Washington papers are now, and have been for several years, without weight or influence in National affairs. The best of them, the *Star*, is merely a local newsgatherer. Add to this the fact that Mr. Hudson, who was named as editor of the new sheet, is a weak sort of society reporter who brilliantly managed to ruin the *Sunday Capital*, and Mr. Whitney's denial of the newspaper scheme is easily believed.

So far as his avowal that he would not accept office is concerned, Mr. Whitney will excuse those who know him for having mutual reservations on the subject. Mr. Whitney's desire for the presidency has been noticed for two years and his availability as a candidate recognized. Mr. Whitney is, beside the late Mr. Manning, the one really able man in Mr. Cleveland's cabinet. He made the fewest mistakes and the most successes. It is well known that the great wealth of Mrs. Whitney's family would be edited in the cause, even to the extent of a couple million dollars. Dearly as Mrs. Blaine would love to be the lady of the White house, Mrs. Whitney is known by her friends to have a still more ambitious longing for the position.

In seeking for things to reform Mr. John Wanamaker has unluckily stirred up an enemy that brooks no interference and submits to no defeat. Yesterday he crossed the last bridge in his opening fight with the Western Union Telegraph Company by ordering the payment of the government telegraph bills suspended pending the settlement of the discussion. Dr. Norwin Green, president of the great telegraph monopoly, calmly announces that he will fight the Postmaster General in the courts. He states that in ordering the rate cut, as to all distances, from one cent to one mill per word, the Postmaster General has exceeded the authority given him by law to fix the rate the government shall pay for the transmittal of messages.

Dr. Green alleges that this is unconstitutional, being the taking of private property and services without just and fair compensation. The defense is thus on broad and seemingly equitable grounds, if as Dr. Green states messages could not be sent at the rate proposed without loss to the company. The average length of a government message is about twenty words, and of course it must be delivered by a messenger, and must take precedence of all other business. The new rate would make the toll two cents; Mr. Wanamaker has probably forgotten that it costs two cents to send a message by this department and if special delivery is required ten cents more.

What, except perchance a fleeting notoriety can Mr. Wanamaker hope to derive from this war on the telegraph companies? It is an essential principle of this government to pay for what it gets fair compensation, whether it be to a laborer or to a powerful monopoly. In this case, should Mr. Wanamaker succeed, about $10,000 per annum will be saved. It would cost the government $100,000 to defend the suit. Former postmaster generals have never questioned the justice of the rate at ten times what Mr. Wanamaker proposes to make it.

The conclave of Knights Templar will be badly handicapped financially, unless some new device is invented by the committee for raising money. It was expected the hotel keepers, liverymen, butchers, grocers and saloon keepers of Washington would give in the aggregate about $20,000. Cities where the conclaves have been held have never given less than $35,000 to $40,000. But after a hard canvass the committee has secured only $1,800 from the business men of the capital. The merchants and others to be benefited go right ahead with their preparations for making a big haul in October, but will give nothing. The reason for this is the fact that the conclave is decided upon and is beyond danger of failure, and they do not propose to give up their money unless they are compelled.

Last Holdeverest.

Arthur Kelley of Nashua, is visiting his sister, Evelyn Smith.

By the prolonged rains the potatoes are looking like the appearance of rust in this vicinity.

Fred Hawkins is making fine improvements on his place, which is an honor to the community.

John Berry has the best garden in this vicinity. He has a bed of onions that the best judges think will yield twelve bushels. No wonder the people call him "happy John."

A number of young people went over to Ossipee Park on Shaw's mountain last Sunday but were not admitted, Mr. Shaw being a Christian man. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

A. W. Canney has a number of boarders. Mr. Canney's house is a pleasant one, it being on a hill; the great Squam Lake and mountains display their astonishing grandeur, looking so beautiful like the Switzerland of America.

Not an Argument against Advertising.

That a man or firm should prosper without advertising is any evidence that advertising does not pay, we think is not a fact. Circumstances alter cases. A man may have ample capital to carry on business through all seasons of depression. He may be economical, and a thorough business man, and by this ability be able to prosper. Now, then, who shall say that with this capital, energy and ability, a judicious advertising system might not, have resulted in unbounded wealth? Advertising is saying to the people: "I have got the goods you want, and will sell them to your advantage." It is simply doing as a laborer does —asking for work. What would you think of a man who would go around doing nothing, when by asking for work he could have it? Liberal advertisers are, in the majority of cases, liberal in matters for the public good. Business men who do not advertise are usually very close in all matters; hence, perhaps, their ability to succeed without advertising. One reason why some advertisers do not get the worth of their money, or do not see the good effects, is that they do not pay the attention to it that they do to other parts of their business. To get the best results, the matter of advertising should be studied just as thoroughly as the buying of goods is studied. In this way reasonable investment or outlay can hardly fail to yield good results. —Rockville (Ct.) Leader.

Wrong Passenger.

One may, perhaps, presume so far upon old acquaintanceship as to indulge occasionally in a mild practical joke, but to attempt familiarity with strangers is "another pair of sleeves." A city gamin was wont to play rather roughly with a good natured bull dog, owned by a shopkeeper of the neighborhood. One day the boy was walking with a crony, when he saw the dog approaching.

"Hi! there's Towser!" he cried. "Now see me head him off."

He stepped in front of the dog, with arms extended, and partially blocked the passage. The animal looked surprised, stopped, and evidently considered within himself what would be best to.

"I never knew him to act like that," said the joker. "He allers lays down on his back and rolls. Guess I'll stir him up a little!"

With that he sprang at the dog, and caught him by the ears, and began pulling him about.

Towser was evidently amazed, but he proved equal to the occasion. Fastening his teeth in the boy's trousers, in startling nearness to an expanse of bare knee, he bolted for a run.

"Run, Towser!" he shouted to his chum. "He's gone and turned himself into another dog!"—Youth's Companion.

He Blew Himself Smoke.

He handed over to the wild eyed editor an article of some length, no bad cigars accompanying it, and cheerfully remarked:

"I don't suppose you'll use this. When I first wrote it I thought it was about as smooth a piece of literary work as had been produced in recent years, but seven editors have refused it and I am beginning to think that my talents lie in the direction of sawing wood rather than writing essays. If you don't care to read it, fire it away, as I won't have anything more to do with it. I can't afford to have its hair cut."

The manuscript was torn to pieces with a good deal of enthusiasm, and the ideal contributor was assured that he had sized himself up accurately.

"If you were writing for a street car," were the feeling words used, "you wouldn't get the slot in the fare box."

Oh that there were more idea contributors!—Nebraska State Journal.

"Those who use our goods are very much attached to them," is what a porous plaster company advertises.

Impurities of the blood often cause great annoyance at this season. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood and cures all such affections.

DID NOT KNOW ART.

Shakespeare Evidently Was Not Familiar with Painters and Painting.

Considering the universal character of Shakespeare's knowledge, it seems at first curious that he should have displayed no very intimate acquaintance with the actual art of painting. This is the more striking when we recollect how much he knew of the details and positive technique of nearly every other profession, calling or handicraft under the sun. His familiarity in these respects is undoubted, and is testified to by masters and experts. On this ground it has been attempted to prove that in turn he practiced as a lawyer, a surgeon, a physician, a horse dealer, a butcher, a soldier, a sailor, a farmer, a gardener, a school master and heavens knows what besides; whilst travelers have declared that unless he had himself visited many of the countries he describes, and been familiar with their language, he could never have alluded as he does to their numerous minute characteristics.

I am not aware, however, that any one has been bold enough to assert that he was a painter of artist, as we understand the term. Nor is this wonderful, perhaps, seeing, as I have hinted, that we look in vain through his pages for anything more than a quite superficial knowledge of the use of the palette and brushes. Indeed the words palette and brush nowhere occur, nor do those of easel, maulstick or any of the paraphernalia of the studio. And this, I repeat, is rather singular, for if the artist, with the thousand materials for practicing it, were uncommon in England in Shakespeare's day, they could scarcely have been as lavishly, Germany, Flanders or France; and he was so conversant with the habits of continental nations that one would have thought the artist's life and its surroundings would not have escaped him in detail. Yet he never even mentions the palette, which, it is always his "pencil," and although we know that the word popularly expresses the instrument by which artistic work is produced, it is at least odd that the poet avoids the use of its literal synonym, especially [illegible] bering the vast scope of his vocabulary.

The artist (Timon of Athens) talks no "shop," tells nothing about his models who sat to him, or the difficulty of getting the sort of heads he wants. Nothing is revealed as to the technique, or the system of priming the canvas, or laying in the first or that color first—or what, in a word, the process and progress of the work have been, as, I submit, might fairly have been expected. Neither is any further clew offered as to the nature of the subject, nor any hint as to its dimensions; but later on, when the patron Timon sees it, he commends it, and in spicing his admiration with some philosophic moralizing, pays a just tribute to the noble art thus:

> Painting is almost the natural man;
> For idiom dishonor traffics with man's nature,
> As he best, candles: these enmelled figures are
> Even such as they give out. I like your work;
> And you shall find I like it.

If this significant promise was never performed, it was Master Painter's own fault, and he was rightly served. In the last act of the play we discover what he really is; and if our heaven gifted "Swan of Avon" intended to typify in him the artistic character generally, we can only say his opinion of it was not high. Would it be a terrible heresy to add that it also betrays the shallowness of his acquaintance, if not with the art of painting, at least with its professors? The scene is too long to quote, but it is little less than a libel upon the whole community to have it exemplified in the person of such a mean, contemptible, fawning sycophant as the painter shows himself.—Magazine of Art.

A Physician on the Hair.

The best way to avoid scalp troubles, hair falling out and premature baldness is to use nothing but clear water on the head. When you go to a barber do not let him grab the razor, vaseline or similar substances on your hair. These are more likely to cause trouble than to do good. In cases where dandruff, scald head or any scalp disease appears, soap of good quality should be used in the water with which the head is cleansed. Cold water, followed by gentle rubbing, is exhilarating to the scalp and is usually all the stimulant that the hair needs. Dandruff is an exudation from the pores of the scalp that spreads and dries, forming a scale or scurf. It is caused in nearly all cases by a bad condition of the blood. A person affected with scrofula almost always has dandruff. A frequent use of a fine tooth comb is likely to irritate the scalp, and cause dandruff to appear. In cases of this kind, after washing the head, apply a little vaseline to soften the skin. If the hair is falling out, and a stimulant is wanted, rub the scalp with brandy with a little salt in it.

Baldness is due to several causes; heredity is one of them. Members of some families get bald early, while in others the hair remains until old age. Scrofula is a frequent cause of baldness, and illness, particularly fevers, causes baldness. Excessive brain work is responsible for many bald heads, and wearing hats constantly cannot be too often condemned. Whenever I get into a railway car I take off my hat. I don't put on a tight fitting skull cap either. The hair needs air, and the head to be kept cool. The reason that there are more bald men than women is due to the fact that women wear no hats that admit the air to the top of the head, while men's hats exclude the air. Baldness among men is undoubtedly increasing, and is due to the fact that men do more head work and take less rest and relaxation now than formerly.—E. B. Foote, M. D., in New York Mail and Express.

Steinkirks.

Lace neck cloths, carefully arranged, were worn by men of fashion up to 1692. In the continental war against Louis XIV., the style altered in a curious way. At the battle of Steinkirk, when the brigade of Bourbonais was flying from the onset of the allies, there was no time for foppery and the finest gentlemen of the court came spurring to the front with their rich cravats in utter disorder. It became, therefore, the fashion of the swells of Paris to wear around their necks kerchiefs of fine lace, loosely and disarranged. The collars were called "Steinkirks" and remained long the mode.—Chicago Times.

Observations upon the sway of tall chimneys during high winds show that one 115 feet in height and 4 feet in total diameter at the top waved 20 inches during a heavy gale, and another 164 feet high, but with a 6½ feet diameter of flue, moved through an arc of only 6½ inches.

The Esquimaux.

While the Esquimaux have a far wider range east and west than any other race, there is much evidence that the north and south limits of their territory have greatly narrowed. If the suggestion of Capt. Adams, that the Smith Sound natives, about 200 in number, be removed to south Greenland to prevent them from entirely succumbing to the hardships of their isolated home, were carried out, the north and south range of these natives would be still further diminished. We know that the Esquimaux once hunted in the northern part of Grant Land, over 200 miles north of the present homes of the Smith Sound highlanders. On the other side of Baffin's bay the Esquimaux not long ago often went to Cape Sabine, where Greely's party passed their last winter, but they have not been heard of so far north for some years. On Banks Land Mr. Jones found very old remains of Esquimaux huts, but the natives south of Banks Land had not even any traditions of people living so far north, and the natives of Wollaston Land, who would be most likely to go there to hunt, have said they never go north of Prince Albert sound, which is far southeast of Banks Land. These facts point not more to the southern retreat of the Esquimaux than to the gradual extinction of the race. Even in southwest Greenland, where under Danish rule the hard lot of the natives has been considerably ameliorated, they are barely keeping up their numbers.—New York Sun.

A Comforting Night Cap.

"It ain't ev'rybody I'd put to sleep in this room," said old Mrs. Jinks to the fastidious and extremely nervous young minister who was spending the night in R at her house. "This here room is full of sacred associations, me," she went on; "my first husband died in that bed with his head on them very pillers, and poor Mr. Jinks died settin' right in that corner. Sometimes when I come into the room in the dark I think I see him settin' there still."

"My own father died layin' right on that lounge under the window. Poor pa! he was a speculiatist, and he allus said he'd appear in this room again, after he died, and sometimes I'm foolish enough to look for him. If you should see anything of him to-night, you'd better not tell me; for I'd be a-gin to me that there was something in speculiatism, and I'd hate to think that.

"My son by my first man fell dead of heart disease right where you stand. He was a doctor, and there's two whole skeletons in that closet that belonged to him, and a half a dozen skulls in that lower drawer.

"Well, good night; and pleasant dreams."—True Flag.

Quite Indifferent, You See.

Father—Robert, is it not about time that little boys were abed?

Robert (aged 6, carelessly glancing at his watch)—Really, father, I must be excused from venturing an opinion. It is a subject in which I have little interest; I have no little boys, you know.—Binghamton Republican.

Pleasing is welcome.

Nobody was ever as much attached to the old farm as the mortgage.—Burlington Free Press.

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Time Table.

LEAVE WOLFEBOROUGH:

6:00 a. m., For Weirs, via Centre Harbor
10:30 a. m., For Weirs, via Centre Harbor
2:05 p. m., For Weirs and Centre Harbor

LEAVE WEIRS:

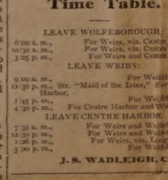
9:00 a. m., For Wolfeborough
6:30 p. m., Str. "Maid of the Mist," For Centre Harbor.

1:45 p. m., For Wolfeborough
4:30 p. m., For Centre Harbor and Wolfeboro'

LEAVE CENTRE HARBOR:

7:35 a. m., For Weirs and Wolfeborough
12:30 p. m., For Weirs and Wolfeborough
5:00 p. m., For Weirs, Long Island and Wolfeborough

J. S. WADLEIGH, CAPT.



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LEAVE CENTRE HARBOR, Daily, Sundays excepted, at 8.00 a. m. for Weirs, "Long Island, Wolfeborough and Alton Bay, connecting with trains for Portland and Boston.

LEAVE WEIRS at 6.30 a. m. and 1.30 p. m. for Wolfeborough, and Alton Bay, at 8.15 p. m. for Centre Harbor.

LEAVE LONG ISLAND at 1.15 p. m. for Weirs, Wolfeborough and Alton Bay.

LEAVE WOLFEBOROUGH at 8.15 a. m. and 3.15 p. m. for Alton Bay

RETURNING.

LEAVE ALTON BAY at 11.30 a. m. for Wolfeborough, Long Island and Weirs. At 4.15 p. m. or on arrival of trains from Boston and Portland, for Wolfeborough, Weirs and Centre Harbor.

LEAVE WOLFEBOROUGH at 12.30 a. m. for Long Island and Weirs and at 4.30 p. m. for Weirs and Centre Harbor.

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*The morning boat from Centre Harbor will not stop at Long Island, unless Signalled.

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